

Message Text

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TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: ENERGY: FRENCH VIEWS ON CONSUMER COOPERATION

REFS: (A) PARIS 30447

(B) PARIS 30607

(C) STATE 279256

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR VALERY READ TO OECD COUNCIL DEC.
20 TWO SHORT STATEMENTS ON ENERGY COOPERATION, ONE (AS
REPRESENTATIVE OF EC COUNCIL PRESIDENT) RE-
PORTING DECISIONS OF EC COUNCIL DEC. 17, AND SECOND
ON BEHALF OF GOF.

2. FIRST STATEMENT NOTED EC HAS ADOPTED "AMBITIOUS
OBJECTIVES" FOR REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION GROWTH AND
DEPENDENCE ON OUTSIDE SOURCES BUT HAS NOT YET ADOPTED
MEANS FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES. VALERY SAID EC ACTIVI-
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TIES CONSTITUTE "IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO PREPARATION

OF DIALOGUE BETWEEN OIL EXPORTING AND IMPORTING COUNTRIES."

3. SPEAKING FOR GOF, VALERY IN SECOND STATEMENT REFERRED TO "VERY CONSIDERABLE" EFFORT ALREADY TAKEN BY FRANCE AND STRESSED NEED FOR PARALLEL EFFORTS BY OTHER CONSUMERS. STATEMENT SAID IN THIS CONNECTION THAT U.S. PROJECT INDEPENDENCE WAS MATTER OF SATISFACTION TO FRANCE AND INCLUDED APPROVING NOD TO EFFORTS IN JAPAN AND ELSEWHERE.

4. VALERY NOTED MARKET FORCES WOULD HELP, BUT HE EMPHASIZED THEY WOULD NOT SUFFICE UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY POLICIES DETERMINED BY CONSUMER GOVERNMENTS AND BY COOPERATION AMONG THEM. FRANCE, HE SAID, HAS ALWAYS FAVORED COOPERATION AMONG CONSUMER COUNTRIES WITH AIM OF REDUCING DEPENDENCE. WHILE SITUATIONS AMONG COUNTRIES AND GROUPS OF COUNTRIES DIFFER, OECD COUNTRIES SHOULD EACH MAKE A MAXIMUM EFFORT, USING THE EXISTING STRUCTURES OF THIS ORGANIZATION FOR CONCERTATION AND COOPERATION.

5. THIS WAS SPIRIT, VALERY SAID, IN WHICH U.S. AND FRENCH PRESIDENTS REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMON WILL TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION, NOTABLY ON ENERGY CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY SOURCES, AND FINANCIAL SOLIDARITY. THIS COOPERATION REFLECTS GENERAL WILL FOR CONCERTATION, REAFFIRMED BY THE TWO PRESIDENTS, THAT WILL LEAD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO A DIALOGUE WITH OIL PRODUCERS, "FOR WHICH IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO BEGIN PREPARATIONS NOW WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS ORGANIZATION."

6. COMMENT: VALERY'S TONE WAS HIGHLY POSITIVE TOWARD NEED FOR CONSUMER CONCERTATION IN PREPARATION FOR CONSUMER-PRODUCER DIALOGUE. WHILE HE EMPHASIZED NEED TO USE OECD FRAMEWORK FOR CONCERTATION, STATEMENT LACKED SPECIFICS. STATEMENTS CALLED FOR NO DISCUSSION BY OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS AND NONE TOOK PLACE.
TURNER

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